

LESSON 5

TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

Spanish Missions of Texas

- *The Spanish Explorations*
- *Spanish Rule*
- *The Demise of Spain*
- *See Special Lesson 1 for More on Missions*

INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- 1. WORD SEARCH:** Using information from “The Spanish Explorations,” “Spanish Rule,” and “The Demise of Spain” sections of “A Brief Sketch of Texas History” in the Texas Almanac, students will complete the questions to discover words to find in the **Spanish Missions Word Search**. They should fill in the blanks first and then use these terms to complete the word search.
- 2. CROSSWORD PUZZLE:** Using information from “The Spanish Explorations,” “Spanish Rule,” and “The Demise of Spain,” students will complete the **crossword puzzle**.
- 3. VACATION LETTER:** Students will plan their summer vacation, choosing to visit either San Antonio or El Paso. While they enjoy their selected city, they will tour at least two missions. Students will **write a letter to a friend** who has not visited San Antonio or El Paso, trying to persuade him or her to travel to those missions.
- 4. MISSION LETTER:** Students will pretend that they are a Franciscan priest who wants to establish a mission in Texas. They will **write a letter to the Spanish civil authorities** explaining the need for the mission.

*San Francisco de la Espada Mission is one of several 18th-century missions in the San Antonio Missions National Historic Site.
Photo by Robert Plocheck.*

SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 2, 8, 9, 19, 21, 22, 23

7 - 2, 10, 11, 19, 21, 22, 23

8 - 2, 11, 23, 29, 30

STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 2, 3

8 - Social Studies - 1, 2



Lesson 5 – Spanish Missions of Texas

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Spanish Missions Word Search

1. In early 1492, the _____ forces retook the province of Granada.
2. Ferdinand and Isabella commissioned Christopher Columbus for the _____.
3. As early as 1519, Alonso Alvarez de Pineda _____ the coast of Texas.
4. The first recorded exploration of today's _____ was made in the 1530s.
5. The ill-fated members of the expedition were _____ on the Texas coast.
6. In 1540, Coronado led an expedition to the land of the _____ Indians.
7. _____ pursued a fruitless search for gold and silver across the High Plains of Texas.
8. Luis de Moscoso Alvarado assumed leadership of Hernando de Soto's _____.
9. Present-day Presidio is located at the confluence of the Rio Conchos and the Rio _____.
10. Frays Juan de Salas and Diego López responded to a request by the _____ Indians for religious instruction in 1629.
11. The first permanent _____ in Texas was established in 1681–1682.
12. Missions Corpus Christi de la Isleta and Nuestra Senora del Socorro are located in _____.
13. Ysleta pueblo was originally located on the _____ side of the Rio Grande.
14. Now part of El Paso, the Ysleta community is considered the oldest _____ settlement in Texas.
15. Spanish officials lost interest when the _____ threat of colonization diminished.
16. New World Indians had no resistance to European _____.
17. Comanches used horses to expand their _____ southward across the plains.
18. Spanish officials initially denied a request to establish a _____ at San Pedro Springs (present-day San Antonio).
19. The mission system was partially successful in subduing minor _____, but not the larger ones.
20. Spain's final 60 years of control were marked with a few _____ and a multitude of failures.

Mission San Jose is in the San Antonio Missions National Historic Site. Photo by Robert Plocheck.

Lesson 5 – Spanish Missions of Texas

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Spanish Missions Word Search

L	S	D	E	R	A	N	G	A	P	N	L	N	O	I	S	S	I	M
E	E	S	E	S	S	E	C	C	U	S	A	N	F	R	E	N	C	D
E	S	U	M	E	L	P	A	S	O	E	E	E	S	P	A	N	N	T
V	A	C	O	N	V	G	A	Y	O	V	T	A	P	C	Y	H	M	G
U	E	C	I	S	E	B	I	R	T	D	E	T	G	O	B	B	G	E
S	S	E	T	I	E	S	L	U	I	R	X	E	I	E	R	E	E	N
A	I	S	I	M	T	O	E	V	O	Y	A	G	E	R	I	U	U	S
I	D	S	D	E	H	E	O	T	S	N	S	P	D	P	P	S	E	P
S	O	N	E	S	W	G	E	H	T	T	J	U	M	A	N	O	R	N
S	D	O	P	E	J	N	B	E	N	L	E	L	B	N	L	A	T	C
I	A	I	X	A	E	A	R	G	O	U	E	G	S	O	M	N	S	O
M	W	T	E	G	X	R	V	X	E	D	A	M	L	O	E	L	S	D
S	H	I	P	W	R	E	C	K	E	D	A	B	E	M	U	V	E	R
E	E	D	D	O	I	E	G	H	A	E	E	N	E	A	P	T	H	S
D	J	E	P	L	E	O	C	O	R	U	N	L	O	S	E	S	H	N
N	U	P	O	C	O	N	S	R	P	O	T	N	T	R	I	B	E	T
A	M	X	O	E	E	H	A	N	A	T	D	E	S	N	O	E	N	A
R	A	E	P	R	M	A	P	P	E	D	E	O	A	R	T	C	E	D
G	N	P	F	M	I	D	H	S	K	N	A	P	S	A	W	I	E	C
F	N	P	N	N	N	G	C	G	L	A	S	T	C	A	P	S	T	D

Spanish Missions Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS CLUES

3. By the late 1600s, Comanches were using _____ to expand their range.
5. Jose de _____ earned a high reputation by subduing Indians in central Mexico.
7. A Caddo/Tejas chief asked Father _____ to instruct his people in the Catholic faith.
10. In 1731, Spanish colonists from the _____ Islands were brought to Texas.
11. The traditional _____ grounds of the Jumanos and Coahuiltecan were affected.
12. A Franciscan priest, Father Francisco _____, served at the missions in East Texas.
14. The Caddo/Tejas Indians blamed the new religion for the _____.

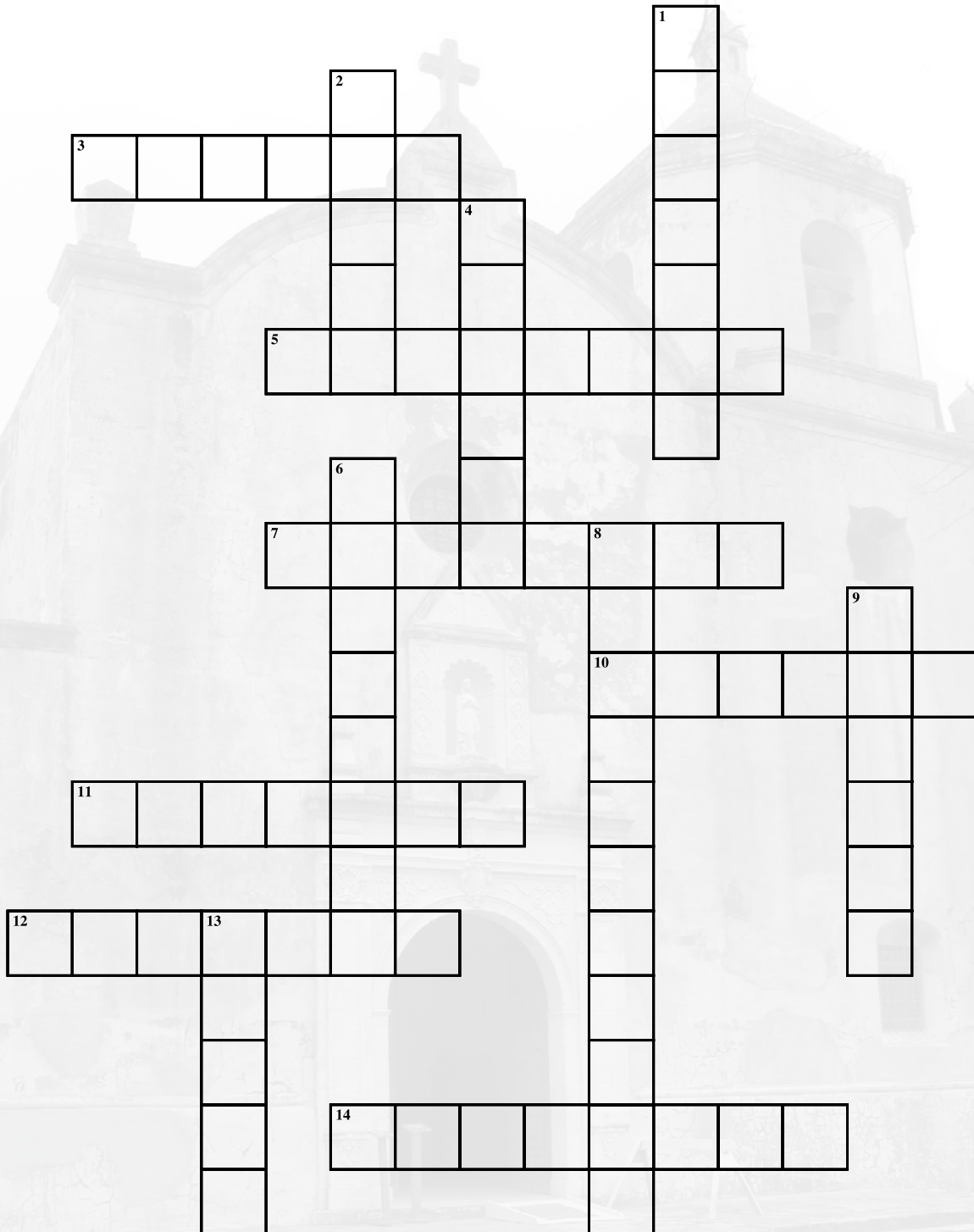
DOWN CLUES

1. In 1693, the Spanish officials closed the _____ efforts in East Texas.
2. A tribal name that means friendly: _____
4. In the 1720s, the Apaches moved onto the lower Texas _____.
6. Some missions flourished and became early _____ centers.
8. Antonio Gil Ybarbo helped settle _____ in the 1760s and 1770s.
9. Spanish fears about the _____ movement into East Texas changed their actions.
13. Mission San Antonio de Valero was also known as the _____.

Lesson 5 – Spanish Missions of Texas

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Spanish Missions Crossword Puzzle



Mission Espiritu is located within Goliad State Park. Photo by Robert Plocheck.

Lesson 5 – Spanish Missions of Texas

TEXAS ALMANAC POSTER

Texas Missions

▲ 1600s

1. San Clemente, 1632, 1684
2. Corpus Christi de la Isleta, 1680
3. Nuestra Señora de la Limpia Concepción del Socorro, 1680
4. San Antonio de Senecú, 1680
5. La Navidad de los Cruces, 1683
6. El Apóstol Santiago, 1684
7. San Francisco de los Tejas, 1690
8. Santísimo Nombre de María, 1690

◆ early 1700s

9. San Cristóbal, 1715
10. Santa María de la Redonda de los Cíbolos, 1715
11. San Francisco de los Neches, 1716 (originally Nuestro Padre San Francisco de los Tejas)

● mid, late 1700s

24. Nuestra Señora de los Dolores del Río de San Xavier, 1745
25. San Francisco Xavier de Horcasitas, 1748
26. San Ildefonso, 1748
27. Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria, 1749
28. Nuestra Señora del Rosario, 1754
29. San Xavier (San Marcos), 1755
30. San Francisco Xavier on Guadalupe (New Braunfels), 1756
31. Nuestra Señora de la Luz del Orcoquisac, 1756
32. Santa Cruz de San Sabá, 1757
33. San Lorenzo de la Santa Cruz, 1762
34. Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria del Cañon, 1762
35. Nuestra Señora del Refugio, 1793

